



CRAZY COSTA

Volume III, Number 15

March 17, 1969

This is COSTAGUANA, the once-proud hulk of a great Diplomacy magazine, published by C.F. von Metzke, 3716 Columbia Street, San Diego, California 92103. No game openings. Sub rates \$1.00 for as many issues as I care to send (at least 17). Press releases are solicited from anyone, but try to be concise. (However, do write a few, folks!)

ROSTER: The following changes in the roster, printed last issue, are effective immediately:

SUTENSON, Anders - change zip code to 94529.

McCALLUM, John - Change game code to (7-R).

BEECHER, Stefan - Delete (8-A) from game code.

JOHNSON, Robert E. - Change (8-S) in game code to (8-A).

The following names are added:

ANSOFF, Peter (10-T) - 652 Fairview Rd., Pittsburgh, PA. 15238
(SCF Pittsburgh).

MAY, David (10-E) - 7370 Cabrillo Ave., Ja Jolla, CA. 92037
(SCF San Diego).

The following trade agreement should be added:

COWAN, Donald (T) - 1605 8th Ave. S.W., Decatur, AL. 35601
(Mail routed through Birmingham).

Additionally, all persons in Game Ten listed next page should have their game codes amended accordingly.

STANDBY PLAYERS: Ten sets of moves were missed this issue, a new record for COSTA. I expected this; people must be sick of the erratic pubbing. I have asked several people to submit standby moves where needed, but I think more will be needed (many people had no moves due this time; they may drop next round). Anyone interested in standing by in any game, please say so. Do not specify particular games, please; just tell me how many you wish to help with.

GALAXY: Those of you who expected your moves last time and didn't get them, don't panic. Of the eight games, two are under way again, one is stalled while I straighten a confused player out, two are stalled while I replace players who resigned, one more resumes with this issue, and the remaining two are being given away to another gamesmaster and will resume shortly. (One or two of these games may not "resume" for some players quite as fast as you anticipate; there are some battles being resolved. At least one game, which is not yet back in business, will be several weeks in battle resolution when it does get back together.)

SCHEDULE: Hereafter moves are due every fourth Wednesday. The magazine will be mailed the Monday following each deadline. This will presumably keep us going steadily, and will allow a bit more time for negotiation. In part-compensation, I will make extensive use of conditional retreat and build systems; be warned.

GAME TEN

This is what is left of the Doctors' Game, the original idea having fallen flat. Four of the players below are doctors, the other three are people I feel will contribute to a good game. So, in a way, maybe the idea didn't fall that flat.

Spring 1901 Moves are due in here by Wednesday, April 9, 1969.

When assigned, the number and standby for this game will be announced. Press releases are solicited of sensible length.

AUSTRIA: Dr. Robert C. Keathley, Medical Arts Bldg., 104 S. Spring,
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130.

ENGLAND: David May, 7370 Cabrillo Avenue, La Jolla, Calif. 92037.

FRANCE: Dr. T.D.C. Kuch, 4242 East-West Highway, Chevy Chase,
Maryland 20015.

GERMANY: Norman McLeod, 906 Kimberwicke Road, McLean, Virginia
22101.

ITALY: Dr. George I. Grayson, 649 East 14th Street, New York,
New York 10009.

RUSSIA: Dr. S.A. Cochran, Jr., 805 Citizens Bank Bldg., Tyler,
Texas 75701.

TURKEY: Peter Ansoff, 652 Fairview Road, Pittsburgh, Penna. 15238.

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The resuscitation of the von Metzke Diplomacy 'zines is now complete. VERBAL CHAOS LTD., which is really run by Bill McDuffie, is under way again and is back in Bill's hands. DIES IRAE, which is being published for the International Federation of Wargaming, is also back in business, albeit tenuously. If as many moves are missed in DIES IRAE as I think will be, it will probably fold up. In such case, all paid subscribers will receive refunds. On the other hand, VERBAL CHAOS LTD., now that it is in good hands again, should prove a healthy and vital magazine.

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The future of COSTAGUANA has finally been decided. After the present games conclude - which will be a long time, to be sure - it will cease publication. Your editor wishes to devote more time than he is presently able to a number of other things, and Diplomacy is not one of them. In the meanwhile COSTAGUANA will probably remain more or less diminutive, confining itself largely to games and press releases and discontinuing all the frills.

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Of interest to the odd may be the fact that the state of Kentucky boasts a town named Jeff. This would be written by the post office JEFF, KY.

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COSTAGUANA wishes to convey its warmest congratulations to Dennis M. Smith, who was well-known in former days of Diplomacy, and Miss Alice Broudy, who have recently announced plans to wed in May. Science-fiction fans may know Dennis through his brilliant art work, which has appeared in several magazines and which has at times been closely associated with Harlan Ellison. The latter's award-winning short story "I have No Mouth, And I Must Scream" was directly inspired by a M Smith drawing.

MOVES FOR ALL GAMES....

1968-N

A slight error was made in the last issue - one which, thank God, can be easily rectified. In computing supply centers owned, I credited St. Petersburg to both France and Russia. It is in point of fact a French center, and consequently Russia is required to remove one unit. I am asking the Russian player, Jerry Pournelle, to include his removal with the Spring moves, and all other players may make their moves conditional upon which unit is deleted.

Fall 1904 Builds: England builds Fleet London. Germany builds Army Berlin. Turkey builds Fleet Smyrna.

THE DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1905 MOVES IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1969.

1968-O - Spring 1905 Moves

AUSTRIA (Cochran): ARMY BERLIN STAND. ARMY BUDAPEST STAND. ARMY VIENNA STAND. ARMY TRIESTE STAND. ((no moves rec'd.))

ENGLAND (Johnston): ARMY ST. PETERSBURG STAND. FLEET SKAGERRAK TO SWEDEN. FLEET DENMARK SUPPORT SKAGERRAK TO SWEDEN. fleet helgoland bight to kiel. FLEET BARENTS SUPPORT ST. PETERSBURG. FLEET LONDON TO NORTH SEA.

FRANCE (Naus): ARMY BURGUNDY STAND. ARMY PIEDMONT STAND. ARMY BELGIUM STAND. ARMY TUSCANY STAND. FLEET ROME STAND. FLEET TYRRHENIAN SEA STAND. FLEET TUNIS STAND. FLEET BREST STAND. ((no moves rec'd.))

GERMANY (Linden): army warsaw to silesia. army silesia to berlin. ARMY HOLLAND SUPPORT BALTIC TO KIEL. FLEET BALTIC SEA TO KIEL. FLEET LIVONIA TO BALTIC SEA. army prussia support silesia to berlin ((sic! - no such unit))

ITALY (Tzudiker): FLEET ADRIATIC STAND. ((no move rec'd.))

RUSSIA (Ward): army sevastopol to rumania.

TURKEY (Wittmann): ARMY CONSTANTINOPLE TO GREECE. ARMY ARMENIA TO SEVASTOPOL. ARMY NAPLES STAND. ARMY RUMANIA SUPPORT ARMENIA TO SEVASTOPOL. ARMY SERBIA STAND ((unordered)). FLEET IONIAN SEA SUPPORT NAPLES. FLEET AEGEAN SEA ~~XXXX~~ CONVOY CONSTANTINOPLE TO GREECE. FLEET SMYRNA TO EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

The Russian Army Sevastopol must retreat to either Ukraina or Moscow. Fall moves may be conditional upon which choice is selected.

Standby moves for Austria are requested from George Schelz. Peter Rosamilia is asked to stand by with the poor Italian unit too. I do not expect any need for standby moves for France.

THE DEADLINE FOR FALL 1905 MOVES (w/retreat) IS WED., APR. 9, 1969.

1968-AF - Spring 1903 Moves

AUSTRIA (Birsan): ARMY GALICIA TO RUMANIA. ARMY VIENNA TO BOHEMIA. ARMY TRIESTE TO SERBIA. ARMY SERBIA TO GREECE. fleet bulgaria (sc) to constantinople. ARMY BUDAPEST SUPPORT GALICIA TO RUMANIA.

ENGLAND (Peck): ARMY HOLLAND STAND. FLEET BELGIUM STAND. FLEET LONDON STAND. FLEET NORWAY STAND. FLEET LIVERPOOL STAND. ((no moves rec'd.))

FRANCE (Tzudiker): ARMY BURGUNDY STAND. ARMY SPAIN STAND. FLEET BREST STAND. FLEET MID-ATLANTIC STAND. ((no moves rec'd.))

GERMANY (Wittmann): ARMY BOHEMIA TO MUNICH. ARMY MUNICH TO KIEL. FLEET DENMARK SUPPORT MUNICH TO KIEL.

ITALY (Gemignani): ARMY PIEDMONT STAND. ARMY VENICE STAND. ARMY ROME STAND. FLEET GULF OF LYON STAND. ((no moves rec'd.))

RUSSIA (Cochran): ARMY ST. PETERSBURG STAND. ARMY WARSAW STAND. ARMY BERLIN STAND. ARMY UKRAINA STAND. fleet rumania stand. FLEET GULF OF BOTHNIA STAND. ((no moves rec'd.))

TURKEY (Just): ARMY ARMENIA TO BULGARIA. ARMY CONSTANTINOPLE SUPPORT ARMENIA TO BULGARIA. FLEET BLACK SEA CONVOY ARMENIA TO BULGARIA.

The Russian fleet Rumania retreats to Sevastopol. The Austrian fleet Bulgaria retreats to the Aegean Sea.

Standby moves are requested as follows: For England from Frank Lunney; for France from Peter Rosamilia; for Italy from Andrew Phillips; and for Russia from Brenton Ver Ploeg.

THE DEADLINE FOR FALL 1903 MOVES IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1969.

1968-AW - Fall 1902 Builds

Austria builds only one - Army Vienna. England builds Army London. France removes Fleet Portugal. Germany builds Army Kiel. Italy builds Fleet Naples.

THE DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1903 MOVES IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1969.

I have a suspicion that we will need a new player for Turkey this time. Therefore, to be safe, I am asking Larry St. Syr to submit standby moves for that country.

1968-AX - Fall 1902 Moves at long last....

This game has been stalled for ages, and it's nice to see it under way again. Strangely, the player who originally requested a delay never did send in move revisions....

AUSTRIA (St. Cyr): army albania to trieste. army vienna support albania to trieste. army serbia support greece to bulgaria. fleet greece to bulgaria.

ENGLAND (Just): army edinburgh to norway. army finland support skagerrak to sweden. fleet norwegian convoy edinburgh to norway. FLEET SKAGERRAK TO SWEDEN. ((whoops! The order "ARMY FINLAND...." should be in CAPITAL LETTERS; it succeeds.))

FRANCE (Kinney): ARMY PARIS TO PICARDY. ARMY BURGUNDY TO PARIS. ARMY SPAIN TO PORTUGAL. FLEET ENGLISH CHANNEL TO LONDON.

GERMANY (Reinsel): ARMY MUNICH TO BURGUNDY. ARMY KIEL TO RUHR. ARMY DENMARK STAND. ARMY RUHR TO BELGIUM. FLEET HOLLAND SUPPORT RUHR TO BELGIUM.

ITALY (Peck): ARMY TRIESTE STAND. ARMY VENICE STAND. FLEET NAPLES STAND. FLEET IONIAN SEA STAND. ((no moves rec'd.))

RUSSIA (Goldstein): army rumania to serbia. ARMY BUDAPEST TO VIENNA. army moscow to st. petersburg. ARMY GALICIA SUPPORT BUDAPEST TO VIENNA. FLEET BLACK SEA STAND. fleet st. petersburg (nc) to norway. fleet sweden support st. petersburg to norway.

TURKEY (McDuffie): army bulgaria to serbia. ARMY SMYRNA TO CONSTANTINOPLE. FLEET CONSTANTINOPLE TO AEGEAN. FLEET AEGEAN TO EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

The Russian fleet Sweden must retreat to either the Baltic Sea or the Gulf of Bothnia.

The Austrian army Vienna must retreat to either Tyrolia or Bohemia.

Adjustments as follows - they may be conditional upon the outcome of retreats: Austria removes two; France builds two; Germany builds one; Italy builds one; England, Russia, and Turkey stay the same.

Norman McLeod is asked to send in a standby build for Italy.

THE DEADLINE FOR FALL 1902 BUILDS (w/retreats) IS WED., APR. 9, 1969.

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1968-BS - Fall 1902 Moves

AUSTRIA (Key): ARMY TRIESTE TO TYROLIA. ARMY VIENNA SUPPORT TRIESTE TO TYROLIA. ARMY SERBIA TO BULGARIA. fleet greece support serbia to bulgaria.

ENGLAND (Childers): ARMY LONDON STAND. FLEET NORTH SEA STAND. FLEET SKAGERRAK STAND. FLEET YORKSHIRE STAND. ((no moves rec'd.))

FRANCE (Birsan): ARMY PORTUGAL STAND. ARMY BURGUNDY TO RUHR. ARMY PARIS STAND (unordered). army munich to berlin. fleet english channel to belgium. army marseilles to burgundy (sic! - no such unit).

GERMANY (Beecher): army berlin to munich. ARMY DENMARK SUPPORT RUSSIAN SWEDEN. army belgium support holland. FLEET HOLLAND SUPPORT BELGIUM.

ITALY (St. Cyr): ARMY VENICE TO TRIESTE. ARMY TYROLIA SUP* PORT VENICE TO TRIESTE. fleet ionian sea to greece. FLEET TYRRHENIAN SEA STAND.

RUSSIA (Boggs): ARMY ST. PETERSBURG STAND. ARMY RUMANIA SUPPORT AUSTRIAN SERBIA TO BULGARIA. FLEET SWEDEN SUPPORT GERMAN DENMARK. fleet sevastopol to armenia. fleet black sea to constantinople.

TURKEY (Perkins): army bulgaria support italian ionian to greece. army armenia to sevastopol. ARMY SMYRNA TO ANKARA. fleet constantinople support bulgaria.

The Turkish army Bulgaria is annihilated. The Italian army Tyrolia must retreat to Bohemia, Venice, or Piedmont. Fall 1902 builds may be conditional upon the direction this retreat takes.

Standby moves for England will be requested next round.

Austria builds one. France builds one. Germany builds one. Italy builds one. Russia builds one. (Repetitious, aren't I?) England and Turkey stand even.

THE DEADLINE FOR FALL 1902 BUILDS (w/retreat) IS WED., APR. 9, 1969.

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1968-CF - Fall 1901 Builds

Austria removes the army retreating from Trieste. England builds Fleet London. France builds Armies Paris and Marseilles. Germany builds Armies Munich and Kiel. Italy builds Army Rome. Russia builds Armies Moscow and Warsaw and Fleet St. Petersburg, South Coast. Turkey builds Fleet Smyrna.

THE DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1902 MOVES IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1969.

Well, whaddaya know? A page that ran too short!....

GAME EIGHT - Fall 1901 Moves

The Austrian player, Stefan Beecher, has resigned in disgust over our erratic schedule. His resignation arrived the day after the deadline and was not accompanied by any moves, and so Austria stands this time. It is ironic that the replacement player listed for this game, who now takes over Austria, is Robert Johnson, who has himself complained strongly about our schedules. There is, however, a distinct difference; Bob has acted like a gentleman at all times, and has not just stomped out. For this I admire him, and it is a great pleasure to receive a complaint from such a man, as it is not with such as Beecher. (This, by the way, is not sarcasm directed at Bob.)

Anyway, players desiring to negotiate with Austria should write to Robert Johnson hereafter.

AUSTRIA (for this turn, nobody): ARMY VIENNA STAND. ARMY SERBIA STAND. FLEET ALBANIA STAND.
ENGLAND (McLeod): ARMY YORKSHIRE TO NORWAY. FLEET NORTH SEA CONVOY YORKSHIRE TO NORWAY. FLEET ENGLISH CHANNEL TO LONDON.
FRANCE (Fong): army burgundy to belgium. ARMY MARSEILLES TO SPAIN. FLEET MID-ATLANTIC TO BREST.
GERMANY (Gemignani): army munich to burgundy. ARMY BERLIN TO KIEL. fleet holland to belgium.
ITALY (Kinney): army tyrolia to vienna. army venice to tyrolia. fleet ionian sea to albania.
RUSSIA (Birsan): ARMY WARSAW TO GALICIA. ARMY UKRAINA TO RUMANIA. fleet sevastopol to black sea. FLEET GULF OF BOTHNIA TO SWEDEN.
TURKEY (Boggs): ARMY BULGARIA TO GREECE. ARMY CONSTANTINOPLE TO BULGARIA. fleet ankara to black sea.

There are no retreats. Austria, England, and France build one each. Russia and Turkey build two each. Italy is shut out.

THE DEADLINE FOR FALL 1901 BUILD MOVES IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1969.

GAME NINE - Spring 1901 Moves

AUSTRIA (Turnquist): ARMY BUDAPEST TO SERBIA. ARMY VIENNA TO TYROLIA. FLEET trieste to venice (lower case - fails).
ENGLAND (Ver Ploeg): ARMY LIVERPOOL TO EDINBURGH. FLEET LONDON TO NORTH SEA. FLEET EDINBURGH TO NORWEGIAN SEA.
FRANCE (Jameson): ARMY PARIS TO BURGUNDY. ARMY MARSEILLES SUPPORT PARIS TO BURGUNDY. FLEET BREST TO MID-ATLANTIC.
GERMANY (Reiter): ARMY BERLIN TO KIEL. army munich to burgundy. FLEET KIEL TO HOLLAND.
ITALY (Wittmann): ARMY VENICE STAND. ARMY ROME TO APULIA. FLEET NAPLES TO IONIAN SEA.
RUSSIA (Grayson): ARMY MOSCOW TO UKRAINA. ARMY WARSAW TO GALICIA. FLEET SEVASTOPOL TO RUMANIA. FLEET ST. PETERSBURG (SC) TO GULF OF BOTHNIA.
TURKEY (White): ARMY CONSTANTINOPLE TO BULGARIA. ARMY SMYRNA TO CONSTANTINOPLE. FLEET ANKARA STAND.

No retreats; not much of anything, in fact.

THE DEADLINE FOR FALL 1901 MOVES IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1969.

PRESS RELEASES FOR ALL GAMES

1968-N

IN A LOCKED ROOM SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND (5 Dec. 1904): Help, let me out!

FLEET STREET, LONDON (7 Dec. 1904): Word has it that, due to inflation and recently shoddy workmanship, England will not build a new fleet, but will take one out of mothballs (for those of you in America, that's equivalent to your Cracker Jacks).

CAMBRIDGE (10 Dec. 1904): SPORTS SCANDAL OF THE CENTURY - Entire Cambridge team accused of throwing Cambridge-Oxford Soccer Banquet!!

BERLIN (12 Dec. 1904): German historians, anthropologists, and archaeologists have been working for months to decipher the strange message received earlier from "France" (a geographical designation formerly applied to the Westreich). The final report to the Government, signed by Herr Doktor Friedrich Nietzsche, has unravelled the mystery. "Hell", reported Doktor Nietzsche, "Is one of several designations for a place of eternal repose, with or without punishment, to which the ancients supposed the dead went. The ancient Christians, the last representatives of which were eradicated in the Reich in 1648, beleived in such a place as a part of their strange orgiastic cult. These pagan monotheists also believed (if one beleives their chief commentators) that this 'Hell' burned, or that things were burned in it (depending on which commentator one reads). They believed that the initiate could escape this fate by bathing in lambs' blood (although, apparently, water was used as a substitute in practise, at least in those countries where sheep were not raised). The ruler of this 'Hell' was one Satan (the name varies), while the god which was worshipped seems to have had no name. The characteristics of this god are little-known, except that he may be compared to Zeus in terms of their sexual appetites - both preferred young virgin females. One of the virgins raped by the Christian god later became his goddess-consort in popular mythology (cf. the presumed Christian text, "Mary, Mary, quite contrary...." - apparently it was forced rape).

"Burning in 'Hell' was apparently a punishment for failing to save (or be saved - the texts are not clear) and undergo the lambs'-blood bath referred to earlier. It was also used as an epithet and as a threat by the pagan Christians, although the context is not always clear.

"The founder of this quaint belief system was a nobleman of ancient Judah, one Djesuss F. Krist von Nasareth, who was later executed by the authorities for sedition and heresy. Numerous fanciful tales are recorded about this ancient event (cf. Dktr. Martin Luther's classic study, Myths of the Ancient Pagans). It is rumored that some Christians survive in the wilds of Transylvania, where they suck (or bathe in) the blood of innocent passers-by, but there has been no substantiation of this. ((Maybe not, but it may have been transubstantiated....ed.)) The ancient Christians were known to be bloodthirsty, intolerant, violent, aggressive, dishonest, orgiastic, immoral, indecent, homoerotic, hedonistic, gluttonous, lazy, selfish, brutish, mean, nasty, and short. It may be that the 'Big Brother' of 'France' is a relapsed Christian. If so, it is my recommendation that he be turned over to the High Priest of the United Jewish Church - the only theistic sect tolerated in the Reich - for appropriate discipline."

"GÖRLITZ (26 Dec, 1904): Several relapsed Christians were discovered here yesterday, celebrating one of their pagan holy days, called "Christmas", a pathetic imitation of our glorious Yule Celebration, coming up on 3 January. Seventeen old women and a couple of teenage boys were found worshipping an evergreen tree in a barn on the outskirts of town. All had received "D" ratings by the Board of Mental Health. Authorities feel that such outlandish beliefs appeal only to people with this rating and the lowest rating, "E" (unable to think at all). One of the boys, Karl Rhein-Zell, was quoted as saying, "Duhhh - it's good az comic books. OK? Ha!!"

RANTOUL (20 Feb. 1969): That wasn't very nice, was it? But then, the old superstitions die hard. Why, next, poor old Charlie Reinsel will be telling us that snakes used to talk. Oh, well, what would postal Diplomacy be without its feuds? I am gratified to know that Charlie is still speaking to me, even if only through the middleman of Conrad von Metzke. Well, as Charlie Reinsel sinks slowly into the west, the Reich can only rejoice. "I'll let you keep Holland" indeed! Who do you think I am, Charlie, some neophyte who just learned the game last week? Whether or not I will burn in Hell I will leave to the Sumerians, Hebrews, and other primitives. You will burn in 1968-N.

RANTOUL (21 Feb. 1969): As for you, Conrad von Metzke, I apologize for saying nasty things to you. I will hereby make peace so that you will send no nematodes (or any other kinds of toads) against me. May you never be caught in a National City (or Chula Vista) restroom. May you never have to eat a Florida orange. May Leonard Bernstein discover three new Haydn symphonies and a mass. May Amelita Galli-Curci prove to be your secret admirer. May you, personally, discover a lost Haydn symphony. May you discover a record store that sells Vox Boxes at \$1. each. May you be assigned Austria in a Diplomacy game in which Russia, Italy, and Turkey are played by the three most incompetent players in postal Diplomacy: Charlie Reinsel, "Jay-Jay" Dygert, and Paul Harley. May you get your own personal private feud with somebody. Now, isn't that nice? You may wish me some nice things now. Remember, in the Third Quarter shall I come unto ess-Dee.

JAMUL (15 March 1969): Aw, gee, Roddie, that's sweet of you! I feel utterly ashamed that I suggested such awful things to you last time. I must make amends! May Carl Orff visit you in a dream and write everything you want him to. May Bonnie be nice to all your visiting Dippy friends and make them like you better. May the burrowing nematodes stop at your doorstep and do homage. May Richard Nixon turn out to be a bad dream. (Well, actually, he has already.) May the I.D.F. and/or the N3F Games Bureau bring blessing and honour, glory and power unto thee. May you drop in for a beer when unto ess-Dee you come. In fact, insisteth I.

JAMUL (16 March 1969): By the way, were you all aware that in a backhanded way Rod Walker was the original founder of postal Diplomacy? He may not realize it, but I happen to know the truth. And the truth shall make you free. (Huh?)

JAMUL (17 March 1969): One more thing, Roddie; may nobody ever again put a sign on your MUN desk reading "Beware of Vicious Gophers". So there!

1968-O

LONDON: The 5th fleet left port today under the command of Admiral Sir John Jellibellé for the North Sea. The Fleet is expected to join the forces occupying northern Europe. Meanwhile, naval observers in the Channel Islands were on the alert for signs of French activity off Brest.

The Times recently has rumored that French adventurers have been promoting a pro-war attitude in the Government, but thus far no concrete actions have been taken.

ODESSA: Tsar Rupert held yet another interminable press conference on his tiresome way to Crete: "Well, boys, as I said last week, the southern front is rapidly going the way of the northern. From last reports we still hold Sevastopol, but the troops there are deserting right (very few of them care to go left).

"I hear the local commander enrolled for a crash course in Turkish, so I really don't expect much. Actually, I would already be in Crete, but some damn terrorist shot up my plane in Zurich, and the back-up was diverted to Cuba!"

1968-AF

TURKEY: I think that you shall never see...a poem.
I think that I shall never get...to Roem.
I think that Conrad never used...his doem.
I think that I shall leave, I'm going...hoem.

JAMUL: I think that Just will never write...a poem.
I think that all he writes evokes...a groem.
I think that if I try finding more lines for this, I will
barf my brunch.

PAOLI (EPI): The Paoli Grand Opera House and Auxiliary Chicken Coop was filled to capacity (with three paid admissions), standing room only (there are no seats at all), to ~~mh~~hear the premiere performance of Eric Just's latest masterpiece, Wotan at Bluebeards Masked Ball, with the librettist/composer/conductor himself singing the lead role of Mephistopheles, the Barber of Nuremburg. Unfortunately, the orchestra, with Mr. Just at principal Tuba, was unable to play the difficult score, and so rehearsals for the 77,438-piece orchestra have been scheduled to attempt to piece it together. This delay will postpone the first showing of this magnificent 37-hour work until after the fighting 45th Infantry Division returns from suppressing the orange rebellion in Organe County, Florida. The Forty-Fifth is needed for a brief 3-hour appearance in the VIIIth Act, when Don Juan, the blind trapeze artist, is telling of his 97-year-old grandmother's dark secret. The 45th marches through the stage whistling Colonel Boogie in counterpoint to the Dark Shadows Motive echoing mysteriously in the sub-contra-bass-bassoon (played by the composer himself). It is at this dramatic juncture in the narrative that the composer makes a brief cameo appearance as The Lone Tonto, commanding general of the fighting 45th, who was made famous in Bastogne when his aide asked him what he thought of Georg Solti and he replied, "Nuts!"

SAN DIEGO: I heard the opera and it smells. Probably because the soprano lead was taken by a Florida orange peel....

onward....and upchuckward....

1968-BS

SOFIA: (Sept. 13, 1902 - IPI): Welcoming throngs of citizens lined the streets of Sofia to greet triumphant soldiers of the Imperial Second Army as they entered this Balkan capital close on the heels of the fleeing Turkish Oppression forces. Unconfirmed reports indicate that a major disaster may have befallen the Turkish army during its rout. Some sources are even mentioning that the entire force may have been annihilated.

VIENNA: S is for the sincerity you said you felt.
T is for the trust I placed in you.
C is for the caution with which we laid our plans.
Y is for the yowl I made as the knife slid home.
R is for the remorse I now feel.
put them all together and they spell "Larry"
who is a rat
Burma-Shave.

1968-CF

ROME (Nov. 1901): Reports have been received here that university students loyal to the government (this is 1901, remember) have seized and closed all the pizza parlors in Venice to protest the occupation of that city by an Austrian fleet. The city's putas ((WHAT???!!!)) have reportedly refused to have anything to do with the Austrian sailors. It is anticipated that the unwelcome fleet will shortly shove off for home.

GAME NINE

LONDON (26 April 1901): Extermely unusual events are reported to be transpiring in England these days. Word has it that the London Haven for the Criminally Depraved, which was forced to shut down last week due to inadequate facilities, released its inmates on their honor while repairs and expansion are under way. New racks, iron maidens, branding irons and whips are reported to be in transit, however, and citizens are being assured that any minor deaths and discomforts they might have to endure will soon be ended.

LONDON (29 Apr. 1901): 10 Downing Street was today overrun by the 45 former inmates of the London Haven for the Criminally Depraved and the P.M. was captured. In order to preserve the P.M.'s life, the House of Commons has agreed in emergency session to momentarily allow the renegades' demand: that their leader, who calls himself by the rather curious name of THE GREAT OBCUR, be given control of the English nation. One official expressed the opinion that it was wholly inconceivable that such a step could harm the nation, since the former inmates would obviously be incapable of issuing coherent orders to the longmidled and peaceful English forces, or undertake the steps which would be necessary to consolidate their potentially powerful position. There is, he chuckled, absolutely nothing to worry about.

BRUSSELS (3 May 1901): Recent escapees from the British Isles have confirmed the seemingly unbelievable rumors issuing from England these past two days: total press censorship, dissolution of Parliament, execution of the Royal Family, military preparations, and the establishment of someone called Obcur as the new ruler of England. Amid all the confusion, only one thing appears certain - a madman is now in control of England, and his actions will no doubt be nonsensical.

BREST (Apr. 2, 1901): A cheering crowd saw the French fleet off as it sailed from the harbor today. The fleet is going to Lisbon, Portugal, to help King Noduin II's government fight against uprisings. The leader of the left wing reform party calls himself Prince Henry the Agitator. ((What is he, a washing machine?)) The revolution is also spreading to Spain. France is pledged to help Bourbon monarch Datsalotoro IV in case his position is seriously threatened.

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CLOSING MEANDERINGS FROM THE ED.

** Rod Walker has written thusly: "I do not like separating moves from press releases. I tried it once in an early EREHWON and it didn't turn out well. I'll bet you get a lot of complaints about it. This is one."

** A new 'zine has just this day arrived in my mailbox. It is called The Limbourg Gazette, and can be had from either John Turnquist (who is part of this magazine - COSTAGUANA, I mean) or Craig Klyver (6254 Langdon Ave., Van Nuys, California 91401). Games open at \$3.00/first, \$2.00/ea. add'l. Looks good; quite attractively laid out and printed, and with a wry sense of humor. Suggest you look into it immediately. If Craig will agree, this public advertisement will serve as an offer to trade.

bye now....

